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Message Text

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47
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INFO OCT-01 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 SWF-01 LAB-03

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INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 91

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, EEC
SUBJECT: THE EC MEDIUM TERM COAL POLICY

REFS: A. EC BRUSSELS 8853
B. EC BRUSSELS 8751
C. EC BRUSSELS 8989

1. SUMMARY: IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EC COMMISSION'S PAPER "NEW ENERGY POLICY FOR THE COMMUNITY" (SEE REFTELS), THE EC COMMISSION APPROVED AT ITS MEETING ON NOVEMBER 20 SEVERAL PROPOSALS ON COAL PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY, INCLUDING ONE ON "MEDIUM TERM GUIDELINES FOR COAL 1975-1985". THE PAPERS WILL BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE ENERGY COUNCIL ON DEC. 17. A SUMMARY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE GUIDELINE PAPER, WHICH APPEARED IN A COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE, (WE DO NOT YET HAVE THE FINAL DOCUMENTS) IS OUTLINED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. AS SET OUT IN THE PRESS RELEASE THE COMMISSION PROPOSES THAT COMMUNITY COAL PRODUCTION OVER THE NEXT
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TEN YEARS BE MAINTAINED AT THE 1973 LEVEL OF 250 MILLION

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TONS COAL EQUIVALENT (TEC) PER YEAR. IMPORTS OVER THIS PERIOD SHOULD RISE FROM 30 MILLION TEC TO 50 MILLLION TEC.

3. TO REVERSE THE STRONGLY DOWNWARD TREND OF COAL CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION IN THE COMMUNITY AND ENABLE THE COMMUNITY TO MEET THE TARGETS SET OUT IN PARA 2 THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

A. MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF EXISTING COAL BURNING POWER STATIONS AND CONVERSION OF MULTI-FUEL STATIONS TO COAL BURNING STATIONS. NEW INVESTMENT IN SOLID FUEL POWER STATIONS.

B. MAINTENANCE OF THE SUBSIDY SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY COKING COAL FOR USE IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY.

C. ANTI-CYCLICAL STOCKPILING OF COAL AND COMPULSORY FORMATION OF EMERGENCY RESERVES.

D. MAINTENANCE OF THE OUTPUT IN COAL MINES AND AN INCREASED EFFORT AT PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS.

E. AN ACTIVE MANPOWER POLICY TO ENSURE A STABLE AND PRODUCTIVE LABOR FORCE.

F. AN IMMEDIATE INCREASE IN CURRENT INVESTMENT IN THE COAL INDUSTRY.

G. REINFORCEMENT OF THE FINANCIAL STRENGTH OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY BY AN APPROPRIATE PRICE POLICY.

H. INTENSIFICATION OF TECHNICAL RESEARCH IN THE FIELDS OF PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND UPGRADING COAL AND ALSO IN CONVERTING COAL INTO HYDROCARBONS.

I. DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY COAL IMPORT POLICY AIMED AT GIVING ALL CONSUMERS ACCESS TO THE WORLD MARKET AND IN REACHING MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS WITH EXPORTING COUNTRIES. JOINT VENTURES FOR COAL MINES IN THIRD COUNTRIES ARE RECOMMENDED (REFTEL C).
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J. RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A CLIMIATE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

4. DETAILED MEASURES FOR CARRYING OUT THE COAL POLICY GUIDELINE WILL BE LAID DOWN BY THE COMMISSION BASED ON THE USE OF INSTRUMENTS WHICH THE COMMISSION HAS UNDER THE ECSC TREATY AND NEW PROPOSALS TO BE

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PRESENTED TO THE EC COUNCIL.MYERSON

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